



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/212,393

12/16/1998

MASARU KUMAZAWA

981488

8510

23850

7590

04/14/2003

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP
1725 K STREET, NW
SUITE 1000
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

GRANT II, JEROME

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

21

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/212,393

Applicant(s)

KUMAZAWA, MASARU

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Art Unit

2624

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19 and 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 2624

Detailed Action

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The specification does not support where the controller 20 does not have a storage device.

To the contrary, page 22, lines 6-8 teaches that controller 20 has a ROM and a RAM, see especially line 8.

Therefore, applicant's amendment to these claims does not serve as a distinguishing limitation.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who

Art Unit: 2624

has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7- 12 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mizutani.

With respect to claim 1, Mizutani teaches a controller (including the combination of elements CPU 16, network section 17, bus 21, ROM 18 and RAM 19) that receives printing data for each page from a host (client at terminal 1 or 2); a data transfer unit CPU and bus line 21 for transferring the printing data to a printer (output engine 20) and controls the printer to print the printing data while monitoring states thereof characterized in that it comprises: an analyzing unit (3c) that analyzes the print data and manages the number of pages transferred to the printer and an error processing unit (3f) that passes error data and the number of pages of which printing have been completed to the host when an error in which data is not assured occurred in the printer.

With respect to claims 3 and 14, Mizutani teaches a storage unit RAM 14 that stores preset data of the printers to be connected to the controller 10. The analyzing circuit 3c and the error processing circuit 3f execute based on the data prestored in the RAM 14. See figure 2A and 3A.

With respect to claims 5, 7 and 15, Mizutani teaches a CPU 10 in combination with RAM 14 for determining functions of the printer, see col. 6, lines 12-16. The analyzing circuit 3c and the

Art Unit: 2624

error processing circuit 3f execute functions in accordance with the recognition circuit, described above.

With respect to claims 8, 9, 16 and 17, the preset data stored in RAM 14 from the network 4 which functions as the host. See col. 5, lines 40-42 and 50-55.

With respect to claims 10 and 18, Mizutani teaches that when the printer is incapable of transmitting a completion of the paper feed, do to reasons described at col. 9, lines 7-11, for example, the error processing unit 3f, along with the user analyzing the display screen 5 or 5', can estimate the number of pages which have been completed and the ones which need to be completed. See col. 9. The top portion of col. 10 addresses how the data is arranged, i.e., in block form according to the type of error as it occurs and will appear to the user on the display screen.

With respect to claim 11, Mizutani teaches a printing system comprising a host (user at the other end of network 4) comprising a controller (CPU 10, 16 in combination with unit 3) that receives printed data for each page transmitted from the host, the controller includes an analyzing unit 3c and error processing unit 3f. The host transmits data which has not been completed after it has been determined where the error has occurred, as instructed by the error sending

Art Unit: 2624

device 3g and identifying the sender of the job that contained the error via circuit 3i. Again, reprinting is executed when the host device is informed as to the location of where the error occurred in the printing operation.

With respect to claim 12, Mizutani teaches a recording medium readable by a computer (ROM 13) for enabling a computer to proceed the step of receiving printing data for each page from a host, while a controller monitors the process: said program (bottom of col. 5) has a program for allowing the analyzing unit 3c to function as claimed and the error processing unit 3f to functions as claimed. See also col. 9 in its entirety which explains how data is sent from the host to the printer after an error has been detected.

Claims Objected as Containing Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2, 4, 6 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 2624

Claims Allowed

Claims 19 and 20 are allowed.

Claims 19 and 20 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, the limitation which is included in claim 2.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is (703) 305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore, can be reached on (703) 308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

J. Grant II

April 5, 2003


JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER